

*Amendments to the Claims*

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended)      A method for inhibiting cancerous growth of a mammalian cell that expresses EphB4, the method comprising contacting said [[the]] cell with at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein said [[the]] antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds an EphB4 epitope located within residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]), binding said antibody or said antigen-binding portion thereof to said cell's EphB4, and inhibiting said cancerous growth as a result of said binding.

2. (currently amended)      The method according to claim 1, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 201 to 245 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

3. (currently amended)      The method according to claim 2, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 220 to 244 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 220 to 230 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

5. (currently amended) The [[A]] method of claim 1, wherein said cell is a human cell for inhibiting cancerous growth of a cell the method comprising contacting the cell with at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located in a sequence selected from the group consisting of residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1), residues 201 to 245 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1), residues 220 to 244 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1) and residues 220 to 230 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1).

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A [[The]] method for inhibiting cancerous growth of a mammalian cell that expresses EphB4, the method comprising

contacting said cell with at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein said antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds an EphB4 epitope located within residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1) but wherein the amino acid at residue 226 is Asn (N) instead of Asp (D),

binding said antibody or said antigen-binding portion thereof to said cell's EphB4, and

inhibiting said cancerous growth as a result of said binding

~~according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the sequence has a substitution of amino acid Asp (D) to Asn (N) at residue 226 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1).~~

8. (currently amended)      A [[The]] method for inducing cell death of a mammalian cancer cell that expresses EphB4, the method comprising contacting said [[the]] cell with at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds an EphB4 epitope located within residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]), binding said antibody or said antigen-binding portion thereof to said cell's EphB4, and inducing said cell death as a result of said binding.

9. (currently amended)      The method according to claim 8, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 201 to 245 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

10. (currently amended)      The method according to claim 9, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 220 to 244 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

11. (currently amended)      The method according to claim 10, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 220 to 230 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

12. (currently amended) The [[A]] method of claim 8, wherein said cell is a human cell for inducing cell death of a cancer cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located in a sequence selected from the group consisting of residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1); residues 201 to 245 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1); residues 220 to 244 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1) and residues 220 to 230 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1).

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A [[The]] method for inducing cell death of a mammalian cancer cell that expresses EphB4, the method comprising contacting said cell with at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein said antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds an EphB4 epitope located within residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1), but wherein the amino acid at residue 226 is Asn (N) instead of Asp (D), binding said antibody or said antigen-binding portion thereof to said cell's EphB4, and

inducing said cell death as a result of said binding  
according to any one of claims 8 to 12, wherein the sequence has a substitution of amino acid Asp (D) to Asn (N) at residue 226 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1).

15. (currently amended)      A [[The]] method for treating or preventing cancer in a mammalian subject, wherein said subject is in need of the inhibition of growth, or inducing the cell death of, of cancer cells that express EphB4,

the method comprising

administering to the subject an effective amount of at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]),

contacting said antibody or said antigen-binding portion thereof with said cell as a result of said administering,

binding said antibody or said antigen binding portion thereof to said cell's EphB4 thereby inhibiting said growth of, or inducing the cell death of, said cancer cells, and

treating or preventing said cancer in said subject as a result of said binding.

16. (currently amended)      The method according to claim 15, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 201 to 245 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

17. (currently amended)      The method according to claim 16, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 220 to 244 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

18. (currently amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located within residues 220 to 230 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1 [[NO: 1]]).

19. (currently amended) The [[A]] method method of claim 15, wherein said subject is human for treating or preventing cancer in a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to an epitope located in a sequence selected from the group consisting of residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1), residues 201 to 245 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1), residues 220 to 244 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1) and residues 220 to 230 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1).

20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A [[The]] method for treating or preventing cancer in a mammalian subject, wherein said subject is in need of the inhibition of growth, or inducing the cell death of, of cancer cells that express EphB4,

the method comprising,

administering to the subject an effective amount of at least one antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein said antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds an EphB4 epitope located within residues 200 to 400 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO:1) but wherein the amino acid at residue 226 is Asn (N) instead of Asp (D),

contacting said antibody or said antigen-binding portion thereof with said cell as a result of said administering,

binding said antibody or said antigen binding portion thereof to said cell's EphB4 thereby inhibiting said growth of, or inducing the cell death of, said cancer cells, and treating or preventing said cancer in said subject as a result of said binding according to any one of claims 15 to 19, wherein the sequence has a substitution of amino acid Asp (D) to Asn (N) at residue 226 of EphB4 (SEQ ID NO: 1).

22. - 38. (canceled)

39. (new) The method of any one of claims 1, 8 and 15, wherein the amino acid sequence of said cell's EphB4 comprises that of amino acids 200-400 of SEQ ID NO:1.

40 (new) The method of any one of claims 1, 8 and 15, wherein the amino acid sequence of said cell's EphB4 comprises that of amino acids 16 to 987 of SEQ ID NO:1.

41. (new) The method of any one of claims 1, 7, 8 and 14, wherein said cell that expresses said EphB4 is a breast cancer cell, a prostate cancer cell, a bowel cancer cell, a bladder cancer cell, a colon cancer cell, an ovarian cancer cell, a lung cancer cell, a melanoma cell, a lymphoma cell or a leukemia cell.

42. (new). The method of claim 41, wherein said cell is a breast cancer cell or a colon cancer cell.

43. (new) The method of any one of claims 15, 19 and 21, wherein said cancer is breast cancer, prostate cancer, bowel cancer, bladder cancer, colon cancer, ovarian cancer, lung cancer, melanoma, lymphoma or leukemia.

44. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said cancer is breast cancer or colon cancer.

45. (new) The method of any one of claims 1, 8 and 15, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.